

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/769,753

Examiner

Carlos A. Martinez

Applicant(s)

YOO, JAE-HWAN

Art Unit

2853

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to papers filed through 09/14/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 4-9.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance of claim 1 and 4-9:

With respect to claim 1, the prior art does not teach a multi-beam laser scanning unit for scanning multiple laser beams onto a photoreceptor medium, comprising: a plurality of laser sources each emitting a laser beam; a collimating lens collimating the laser beams; a polygon mirror deflecting the collimated laser beams; a $f-\theta$ lens focusing the deflected laser beams onto the photoreceptor medium; and *a transparent member disposed between the $f-\theta$ lens and the photoreceptor medium, and having a thickness varying depending on a height thereof perpendicular to a direction where the laser beams pass through the transparent member; a movable member for varying the height of the transparent member with respect to the plurality of laser sources, wherein the transparent member has an inclined lower side inclined with respect to a scanning direction of the laser beams, and the movable member has an inclined surface inclined with respect to the inclined lower side of the transparent member.*

With respect to claim 8, the prior art does not teach an image forming apparatus comprising: *a transparent member disposed between an $f-\theta$ lens and a photoreceptor medium, having a thickness varying depending on a height thereof perpendicular to a direction of the laser beams as the laser beams pass through the transparent member, and having an inclined lower side inclined with respect to a scanning direction of the laser beams; and a movable member having an inclined surface inclined with respect to the inclined lower side of the transparent member and varying the height of the transparent member with respect to sources of the laser beams.*

With respect to claim 9, the prior art does not teach an image forming apparatus comprising: a plurality of laser sources each emitting a laser beam; a $f-\theta$ lens focusing onto a photoreceptor medium the laser beams after deflection of the laser beams by a polygon mirror; a *transparent member disposed between an $f-\theta$ lens and the photoreceptor medium, having a thickness varying depending on a height thereof perpendicular to a direction of the laser beams pass through the transparent member, and having an inclined lower side inclined with respect to a scanning direction of the laser beams; and a movable member varying the height of the transparent member with respect to the plurality of laser sources and having an inclined surface inclined with respect to the inclined lower side of the transparent member.*

With respect to claims 4-7, claims 4-7 are allowable since they depend on an allowable independent claim (claim 1).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carlos A. Martinez whose telephone number is (571) 272-8349. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am - 5:00 pm (M-F).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, STEPHEN D. MEIER can be reached on (571) 272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CAM
09/27/2006


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PRIMARY EXAMINER